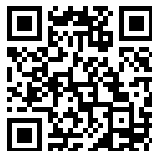

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**FROM THE BEQUEST OF
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CLASS OF 1815

⊙

// Sir Gowther. //

Eine englische romanze aus dem XV. jahrhundert.

Inaugural-Dissertation

zur

Erlangung der Doctorwürde

von der philosophischen facultät

der

Friedrich-Wilhelms-Universität zu Berlin

genehmigt

und

öffentlich zu verteidigen

am 30. Juni 1883

von

K a r l B r e u l

aus Hannover.

Opponenten:

Eugen Braunnholtz, cand. phil.

Felix Kalepky, Dr. phil.

Gustav Lüdtke, Dr. phil.

4 Weimar 1883. //

Hof-Buchdruckerei.

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MAY 24 1884

Small Land.

MEINEN TEUERN ELTERN

IN

LIEBE UND DANKBARKEIT

GEWIDMET.

An dieser Stelle sei es mir vergönnt, einigen männern für ihre mir bei vorliegender arbeit gewährte bereitwillige unterstützung meinen wärmsten dank zu sagen. Es sind dies mein lieber freund Dr. GUSTAV LÜDTKE, welcher mir die von ihm während seines aufenthaltes in England und Schottland im Sommer 1881 angefertigten copien beider handschriften in liebenswürdigster Weise zur benutzung anbot; herr Dr. phil. G. PATZIG, der mir seine abschrift des Londoner Ms. zur verfügung stellte; endlich mein hochverehrter lehrer, herr Prof. J. ZUPITZA, dessen vermittlung mir während meines vorjährigen sommeraufenthaltes in England und Schottland zutritt zu den bibliotheken, in welchen die Mss. sich befinden, verschaffte und dadurch eine collation meiner copien mit den handschriften ermöglichte und dessen stets bereite teilnahme und rathschläge meine arbeit von ihrem anfang bis zum ende begleitet haben. Einige von ihm herrührende conjecturen habe ich in den varianten durch ein Z kenntlich gemacht.

VORBEMERKUNGEN. *)

Die romanze von Sir Gowther ist in zwei hss. überliefert; diese sind *A*, das Ms. 19. 3. 1. der Advocates' Library zu Edinburgh aus der 2. hälfte des 15. Jhds. (fol. 11 — 28). Die handschrift ist durchweg von demselben schreiber geschrieben, der sich am schluss des 'Sir Isumbras' Heeg nennt. *B*, das Royal Ms. 17. B. XLIII des British Museum, frühestens aus der 2. hälfte des 15. Jhds. (fol. 116—131).

Keine der beiden hss. hat uns das gedicht so überliefert, wie es ursprünglich gelautet haben wird: sie weichen mehrfach erheblich von einander ab und haben beide lücken. *A* enthält 738 verse, *B* nur 691.

Die erste und bisher einzige ausgabe des gedichtes mit alleiniger benutzung von *B* ist von Utterson besorgt in den *Select pieces of early popular poetry* (London, 1817) I, 157—190. er hat eine kurze einleitung vorausgeschickt

*) Was hier gedruckt ist bildet nur einen teil meiner der philosophischen facultät vorgelegten arbeit, die vollständig in der von Prof. Zupitza herausgegebenen *Sammlung englischer denkmäler in kritischen ausgaben* erscheinen und auch eine eingehende untersuchung des gesammten der Gowther-Sage verwandten sagen- und legendenkreises enthalten wird.

und gelegentlich unter dem text oder im glossar (II, 223—36) einige ausdrücke erklärt oder zu erklären versucht.

Ich gebe im folgenden den text unter zugrundelegung der handschrift *A*, die, obwohl vielfach verderbt, doch, wie ich später zeigen werde, im allgemeinen den ursprünglichen text besser bewahrt hat. die lücken in *A* habe ich durch *B* ergänzt, eigener conjecturen an verderbten stellen mich jedoch meist enthalten in der überzeugung, dass bei der sehr grossen unsicherheit der überlieferung auf herstellung eines nach allen seiten befriedigenden textes verzicht geleistet werden muss. in den meisten fällen erschien es mir daher als das beste, mich streng an die zu grunde gelegte handschrift zu halten, nur gelegentlich habe ich eine nahe liegende besserung, besonders wenn sie *B* bot, in den text aufgenommen. ebenso bin ich in der schreibung möglichst conservativ gewesen. ich habe die *A* eigentümliche orthographie an allen orten vollständig beibehalten und nur da geändert, wo der reim es verlangte und die änderung sich von selbst rechtfertigt. im übrigen aber habe ich, wo ich dasselbe wort in verschiedenen schreibungen fand, dieselben auch im text gelassen, um nicht den falschen schein zu erwecken, als herrsche in den me. hss. schon eine irgendwie sicher geregelte orthographie; gerade *A* bietet ein lehrreiches beispiel solcher mannigfaltigen widergabe derselben worte. rein orthographische varianten in *B*, wo sie nicht ein besonderes interesse boten, habe ich nicht berücksichtigt. auch betreffs des end-*e* habe ich die schreibung der handschrift getreu widergegeben, hingegen die zahlreichen schnörkel am wortende nur als *ornament in writing* aufgefasst und durchweg unberücksichtigt gelassen. die in der hand-

schrift häufig getrennten bestandteile einer zusammensetzung habe ich zusammengezogen (*apon, emong*, usw.), *u* und *v* geschieden, *ff* durch *F* widergegeben wo die majuskel berechtigt war, sonst durch *f*, eigennamen mit grossen anfangsbuchstaben, alle übrigen substantiva mit kleinen geschrieben. in diesen punkten habe ich die schreibung geregelt, ohne im text oder den varianten meine änderung jedesmal anzugeben; nur, wo ich anstatt des kleinen einen grossen anfangsbuchstaben einführte, habe ich dies auch äusserlich im text durch cursiven druck des buchstabens und das erste mal durch aufnahme der handschriftlichen lesart in die varianten kenntlich gemacht. ich habe das erste wort jedes verses gross geschrieben. die abkürzungen, welche in *A* sehr zahlreich angewandt sind, habe ich aufgelöst, aber stets die an stelle der abkürzung eingesetzten buchstaben durch cursiven druck gekennzeichnet. das gleiche gilt für einige in *A* fehlende, aus *B* ergänzte verse, sowie einzelte in den text eingeführte besserungen. die varianten geben über jede abweichung meines textes von *A* auskunft. Während auf der linken seite des textes sich meine eigene strophen- und verszählung findet, habe ich auf der rechten die nicht stets genaue zählung Uttersons sowie die paginierung beider hss. beigelegt.

1 *God, that art of myghtis most,*
 Fader and sone and holy gost,
 That bought man so dere,
 Shilde us from the fowle fende,
 5 *That is about mannys sowle to shende*
 All tymes of the yere!
 Sum tyme the fende hadde postee
 For to dele with ladies free
 In liknesse of here fere,
 10 *So that he bigat Merlyng and mo*
 And wrought ladies so mikil wo,
 That ferly it is to here.

B. fol. 116a

10

11 *A selcough thyng that is to here.*
 pat fendus nīzyt wemen nere
 15 *And makyd hom with chyld,*
 þo kynde of men wher þei hit tane,
 For of hom selfe had þei nan,
 Be meydon Mare mylde,

A. fol. 11a

1 1—12 *fehlen in A, doch können, da mit dem das Gedicht beginnenden Bilde oder Initialen nur 1½ Reihen fortgerissen sind (vgl. die entspr. Lücke V. 42—45) und vor fol. 11 kein Blatt in A fehlt, die 12 Eingangsverse überhaupt nicht in A gestanden haben.*

3 man on rode B 9 ffere B 10 merlyng B

11 13 A—here] f. A 14 pat—nīzyt] zyt A, A fend to nyegh B ||
 wemen] a woman so B 15 And] To B || makyd] make B || hom]
 here B 16 And mannes kynde of here to tan B 17 For—þei]
 For of himself hath he B || nan] never nan A, non B 18 Be marie
 maide mylde B || mare A

perof seyus clerkus (y wotte, how),
 20 *pat schall* not be rehersyd now, 20
 As Cryst fro schame me schyld:
 Bot y *schall* tell yow of a warlocke greytt,
 What sorow at his modur hart he seyȝ
 With his warcus wylde.

B. fol. 116 b

III 25 Iesu Cryst, *pat* barne blyþe,
 Gyff hom ioy, *pat* lovus to lype
 Of ferlys, *pat* befell.
 A lai of Breyten long y sozght
 And owt perof a tale have brozght,
 30 *pat* luffy is to tell. 30
per wonde a duke in Estryke:
 He weddyt a lade, non hur lyke
 For comly undur kell;
 To the lyly *was likened that lady clere*,
 35 Hur rode reyde *as blosmes on brere*,
pat ylke dere damsell.

A. fol. 11 b

IV When he had weddyd *pat* meydyn schene,
 And sche *was* duches, withowt wene,
 A mangere con þei make;

19 As clerkis sayn and weten wel howe B 20 *pat*—rehersyd]
 Y may not all reherce B 21 As] But B || me] us B 22 Bot]
f. B || of—greytt] how a child was gete B 23 What] And in what B ||
 at—hart] his moder B 24 warcus] workis so B

III 25 Of that baron yborn unblithe B 26 Crist yeve him ioy
 that wulle lythe B 27 ferlys] auntres B 28 A lai] a law A, yn the
 bayes B || long] that was B 29 perof—have] of oon was B || broght]
 y broght A, B 31 wonde] was B || Estryk] Ostrych B 32 He] *f. B* ||
 non—lyke] nobil and riche B 33 for—kell] She was fayre of flessch
 and felle B 34 To—clere] *f. A da hier und in der zweiten Hälfte*
des folgenden Verses die dem Anfange (13—14) entsprechende Lücke
ist. Lesbar ist noch To þe ly ... 35 Hur reyde] Here rody was
 rede B || as—brere] *f. A* 36 y. d.] courteis B, *vielleicht in A dere*
zu lesen, ein Fleck im Ms. an der Stelle, wo das e stehen müsste.

IV 37 h. h.] she was B || meydyn] ladi B 38 And—duches]
 Duches she was B || was] *f. A* || withowt] withouten B 39 man-
 gere] grete fest B

40 Knyztus of honowr þo furst dey
Iustyd gently hom to pley,
Here shaftes gan thei shake.
On the morow the lordes gente
Made a riall tournement

40

45 For that lady sake.
þo duke hymselfe wan stedys X
And bare don full doghty men
And mony a cron con crake.

B. fol. 117 a

v When þis turment con to ses
50 þo ryche duke *and* þo duches
Lad hor lyfe *with* wyn.
X yer *and* sum dele mare
He chylde non geyt ne sche non bare:
þer ioy began to tyne.

50

55 To is lade sone con he seyn:

‘Y tro, þou be sum bareyn;
Hit is gud, þat we twyn.

Y do bot wast my tyme on þe,
Eireles mon owre londys bee’.

A. fol. 12 a

60 For gretying he con not blyn.

60

⁴⁰ o. h.] and squyres on B ⁴¹ Iustyd] On steedes B || g. h.]
hem gentely B ⁴² Die Verse 42—44 fehlen in A, ohne dass die
Lücke äusserlich kenntlich gemacht wird. ⁴⁵ that] the B || lady]
lady is B ⁴⁶ hymselfe] f. B || X] ten B ⁴⁷ full] many B ⁴⁸ and—
cron] here shildes B. || con] gan he B

v ⁴⁹ þ. t.] the feste B || con] was A, gan B || to] y A ⁵⁰ ryche]
worthi B || zweites þo] f. B ⁵¹ lad—lyfe] They levid togeder B ||
wyn] wenne B ⁵² x-mare] Ful vii yere togeder thei were B
⁵³ He—bare] He gat no childe ne none she here B ⁵⁴ þer] Here B ||
began—tyne] gan wex ful thenne B ⁵⁵ Diesem Vers entspricht
V. 56 in B To the lady he gan say. Als V. 55 hat B As it bifill
uppon a day ⁵⁶ f. B || bareyn] baryn A ⁵⁷ Now mote we part
atwene B ⁵⁸ But ye myght a childe here B ⁵⁹ That myght
my londes weld and were B ⁶⁰ F. g.] she wept B || he] and B ||
con] myght B

- VIII 85 A nangell com fro hevon bryght
 And told me so þis same nyght,
 Y hope, was godus sond.
 þen wyll þat stynt all owr stryfe'.
 Be þo lappe he lazt his wyfe B. fol. 118 a
 90 And seyð: 'dame, we schall fonde'. 90
 At evon to beyd þei hom ches,
 þo ryche duke *and* þo duches,
 And wold no lengur wonde.
 He pleyd hym *with* þat lade hende,
 95 *And* ei yode scho bownden *with* þo fende,
 To god wold losse hur bonde.
- IX
 þo chyld *within* hur was no nodur,
 Bot eyvon *Marlyon* halfe brodur:
 For won fynd gatte hom bothe.
 100 þei *servyd* never of odyr þyng, 100 A. fol. 13 a
 But for to tempe wemen *yyng*;
 To deyle *with* hom was wothe.
 Ylke a day scho grette fast
 And was delyverid at þo last
 105 Of won, þat *wold* do scathe.
 þo duke hym gard to kyrke beyre,

VIII 85 com—hevon] that was so faire and B 86 And] f. B ||
 same] yonder B 87 y—godus] I trust to cristis B 88 þen]
 That he B || þat—owr] stynt us of owre B 89 Be—lazt] In his
 armys he toke B 90 And—schall] That frely was to B 91 a. e.]
 What it was even B || hom] f. B || ches] chase B 92 And] For
 no man B || n. l.] thei B 93 and—bownden] She was bounde B ||
 þo] a B 94 T. g.] Til crist B

IX 95 eyvon] f. B || Marylon] marlyngis B 96 For] f. B 100 of]
 for B 101 for—tempe] temptid men and B || yyng] yong A 102 w.
 w.] for sothe B 103 y. d.] Thus the lady B || scho] f. B 104 And]
 Til sche B 105 wold] coth A, wolde B *Doch war auch in A ur-*
sprünglich wold geschrieben, es ist dann aber unterpunktirt und
coth geschrieben. 106 To the chirch thei gon him bere B

Crystond hym *and* cald hym Gwother,
pat syþyn wax breme *and* brathe.

x

þo duke comford pat duches heynde,
110 And aftur melche wemen he sende, 110

B. fol. 108 b

þo best in þat cuntre,
pat was full gud knyztys wyffys.
He sowkyd hom so, þei lost þer lyvys:
Sone had he sleyn three.

115 þo chyld was yong *and* fast he wex:
þe duke gard prycke aftur sex.

Hende, harkons yee!

Be twelfe moneþys was gon,
IX norsus had he slon,

120 Ladys feyr and fre. 120

A. fol. 13 b xi

Knyztus geydyrd hom in samun
And seyð to þo duke, hit was no gamun
To lose hor wyffus soo.

þei badde hym ordon for is son:
125 'He geytys no more is olde won,
Norsus non no moo.'

His modur fell a fowle unhappe,

~~~~~  
107 And cristen his name Goughthere B 108 syþyn] after-  
ward B || a. b.] as barre A

x 109 duke] lord B || þat—heynde] the lady gent B 110 m. w.]  
norsis anone B 111 þo] of the B 112 þat—gud] summe were  
nobill B 113 sowkyd—so] sak so sore B || þer] here B 114 sone]  
Ful sone B || h. h.] he hadde B 115 *Der Vers steht in A hinter*  
*116, doch ist die Reihenfolge in B die natürlichere.* was—wex] throfe  
and swythe wax B 116 g. p.] sent after other B 117 As wet-  
nesse the storie B 118 Be] Bi that the B || w. g.] weren comyn  
and gon B 119 ix] nyen B || h. h.] he had B || slon] ysloon B  
120 Ladys] of ladys A

xi 121 knyztus] knyztus of þat cuntre A, B || in] f. A 122 to  
þo d.] forsothe B || h. w.] this is B 123 lose] sleyn B || wyffus]  
ladies B 124 For he myght not have his wone B 125 norsus—  
no] nor non norses B 127 Than bifill his moder a ferly happe B



Apon a day bad hym þo pappe,  
He snaffulld to hit soo:

130 He rofe þo hed fro þo brest; 130  
Scho fell backward *and* cald a prest  
To chambur fled hym froo.

XII Lechus helud þat lade yare; B. fol. 119 a  
Wemen durst gyffe hym souke no mare,  
135 þat yong chyld Gowther,  
Bot fed hym up *with* rych fode  
*And* þat full mych, as hym behode,  
Full safly mey y sweyre.  
Be þat he was xv yere of eld,  
140 He made a wepon, þat he schuld weld  
(No nodur myght hit beyr),  
A fachon bope of styll and yron, A. fol. 13 a  
Wyte yow wyll, he wex full styron,  
And fell folke con he feyr.

XIII 145 In a twelmond more he wex, 140  
þen odor chyldur in seyvon or sex:  
Hym semyd full well to ryde.  
He was so wekyd in all kyn wyse,  
þo duke hym myght not chastyse,  
150 Bot made hym knyzt þat tyde.  
*He gaf him his best swerd in honde:*

<sup>128</sup> apon] on *B* || bad] she bad *B* || þo] here *B* <sup>129</sup> he—hit]  
And he aughte hire *B* <sup>130</sup> rofe] tare *B* || þ.—þ.] the oon side of  
hire *B* <sup>131</sup> scho—cald] The lady cried after *B* <sup>132</sup> To] Into a *B* ||  
fled] she fled *B*

xii <sup>133</sup> Lechus] Than a leche *B* || helud] helid uppe *B* || þat]  
the *B* || yare] sore *B* <sup>134</sup> wemen] she *B* <sup>135</sup> rych] other *B*  
<sup>137</sup> And—full] as *B* || behode] behovyd *A*, behovid *B* <sup>138</sup> That dare y  
savely swere *B* <sup>139</sup> 139—144 *f. B* <sup>141</sup> nod.] nodur mon *A*

xiii <sup>145</sup> In] That in *B* || a t.] oo yere *B* <sup>146</sup> in—or] did  
in *B* <sup>147</sup> full] *f. B* || wyse] withe *B* <sup>149</sup> þ. d.] his fader *B* ||  
chastyse] chastithe *B* <sup>151</sup> 151 *u.* 152 *folge ich B*, *da A völlig*  
*verderbt scheint.* with cold brade bronde *A*

þer was no *knyght* in *all* þat londe  
þat dynt of hym durst byde.

For sorro þo duke fell don ded;

155 His modur was so wo of red,  
Hur care scho myzt not hyde. 150

XIV *Dowrey* for hym sche myzt have non,  
Bot to a castyll of lyme and ston  
Frely þen scho fled.

160 Scho made hit strong *and* held hur þare.  
Hor men myzt tell of sorro *and* care :

B. fol. 119b

A. fol. 14b

Evyll þei wer bested ;  
For, wher he meyt hom be þo way,  
'Evyll heyle' myzt þei say,

165 þat ever modur hom fed ;  
For with his fathon he wold hom slo 160  
And gurde hor horssus backus in too :  
All seche *parellys* þei dred.

XV Now is he duke of greyt renown  
170 And men of holy kyrke dynggus down  
Wher he myzt hom mete ;  
Masse ne matens wold he non here  
Nor no prechyng of no frere,  
þat dar I heyly hette.

152 n. k.] non A || all] f. A 153 þat] B || of—hyde] durst  
him abyde B 154 For—don] But after whan his fader was B  
155 Carfull was his moder rede B 156 care] sorow B || scho—not]  
myght no man B

xiv 157 Dowrey] More sorro A || sch. m.] must she B 158 to]  
in B || a] f. B 159 f. p.] Fast from him B 160 hit] hire B  
161 tell] syng B 162 Evyll] So strait B 164 E. h.] Alas the  
while B 165 modur] his moder B 167 gurde] strik B || hors-  
sus] hors B || backus] bak B || i. t.] a twoo B 168 all] f. B

xv 169 Now—he] Thus was the B 170 And] f. B || h. k.] reli-  
gion B || dynggus] he throng hem B 172 ne] nor B 173 nor]  
ne B 174 þat] Thus B || h. h.] yow behete B

175 *Erly and* late, lowde and styl  
 He wold wyrke is fadur wyll,  
 Wher he stod or sete.  
 Hontyng lufde he aldur best  
*In parke and in* wylde forest,  
 180 *Where he myght it gete.*

XVI He went to honte apon a day,  
 He see a nonry be þo way, B. fol. 120 a  
 And þedur con he ryde.  
 Tho pryorys and hur covent A. fol. 15 a  
 185 *With* presescion ageyn hym went 180  
 Full hastely þat tyde.  
 þei wer full ferd of his body,  
 For he and is men boþe leyn hom by  
 (þo sothe why schuld y hyde?);  
 190 And syþyn he spard hom in hor kyrke  
 And brend hom up: þus con he wyrke.  
 þen went his name full wyde.

XVII All, þat ever on Cryst wold leve,  
 Yong and old, he con hom greve  
 195 In all, þat he mygt doo.  
 Meydyns maryagys wolde he spyll 190

175 *In B sind 175 und 176 umgestellt.* || E. a.] For A 176 He—  
 fadur] And tho that wold not werk his B 177 Ful sore he wold  
 hem bete B 178 l. h.] he loved B 179 In] f. A || parke] parkes B ||  
 a. i.] wodd and A 180 Bothe be weyus and strete A || gate B  
 xvi 181 He—honte] As he rode on huntynge B 182 see] saw B ||  
 þo] the high B 184 pryorys] proresse B 185 presescion] pro-  
 cession B 186 F. h.] Trewly in B 187 Thei kneled down oppon  
 here knee B 188 And said leige lord welcome be yee B 189 Yn  
 hert is nowght to hide B 190 And—hom] He drof hem home B ||  
 in] into B 191 wyrke] werke A werch B 192 þen—name] his  
 lose spornge B

xvii 193 All] Al tho B || ever—Cryst] wold on god B || wold]  
 con A || leve] lefe A, belefe B 194 Yong—hom] He was abowte  
 hem to B 196 maryagys] maryage A, mariagies B

And take wyffus ageyn hor wyll  
 And sley hor husbondus too  
 And make frerus to leyte at kraggus  
 200 And parsons for to heng on knaggus  
 And odur prestys sloo;  
 To bren armettys was is dyssyre,  
 A powre wedow to seyt on fyre  
 And werke hom mykyll woo.

B. fol. 120 b

A. fol. 15 b XVIII 205 A nolde erle of pat cuntre  
 Unto po duke pen rydys hee 200  
 And seyde: 'syr, why dose pou soo?  
 We howpe, pou come never of cryston stryn,  
 Bot art sum fendys son, we weyn,  
 210 pat werkus hus pis woo.  
 pou dose never gud, bot ey po ylle,  
 We howpe, pou be full syb po devyll.'  
 Syr Gowther wex pen throo.  
 Hee seyde: 'syr, and pou ly on mee,  
 215 Hongud and drawon schall pou bee 210  
 And never qwycke heyþyn goo.'

XXI He gard to putte po erle in hold,  
 And to his modur castyll he wold,  
 As fast as he mygt ryde;

---

<sup>199</sup> And—frerus] He made prestes and clerkes *B* || at] on *B*  
<sup>200</sup> And—for] Monkes. and freres *B* || heng] hong *B* <sup>201</sup> Thus  
 wonderly wold he doo *B* <sup>202</sup> He brent up Heremites on a fere *B*  
<sup>203</sup> And paid widows the same hire *B* <sup>204</sup> A. w.] He wrought *B*  
 xviii <sup>205</sup> A n.] A good old *B* <sup>206</sup> Unto] To *B* || rydys] rode *B*  
<sup>208</sup> W. h.] *f.* *B* <sup>209</sup> Bot] Thou *B* || we] y *B* <sup>210</sup> Bi thi werkis  
 it semeth so *B* <sup>211</sup> never] no *B* || ey] ever *B* || po] *f.* *B* <sup>212</sup> Thou  
 art bisibbe the devel of hell *B* <sup>213</sup> Syr] So *A* || Syr—þen] Than  
 was sir Gowghter *B* <sup>214</sup> Hee] And *B* || syr] *f.* *B* || and] if *B*  
<sup>215</sup> drawon] to draw *B* || schall] shalt *B* <sup>216</sup> And—heyþyn] Or  
 than thow fro me *B*  
 xix <sup>217</sup> Gard—erle] kept this Erll fast *B* <sup>218</sup> modur] moder is *B*  
<sup>219</sup> mygt] my *B*

220 He seyð: 'dame, tell me in hye,  
 Who was my fadur, *withowt* lye,  
 Or þis schall thoro þe glyde'.  
 He sette his fachon to hur hart:  
 'Have done, yf þou lufe þi qwart!'  
 225 Ho onswarde hym þat tyde:  
 'My lord', scho seyð, 'þat dyed last'.  
 'Y hope', he seyð, 'þou lyus full fast'.  
 þo teyrus he lett don glyde.

220 A. fol. 16a  
 B. fol. 121a

xx 'Son, syþon y schall þo soþe say,  
 230 In owre orcharde apon a day  
 A fende gat þe þare  
 As lyke my lorde, as he myzt be,  
 Undurneyth a cheston tre.'  
 þen weppyd þei boþe full sare.  
 235 'Go, schryfe þe, modur, *and* do þy best,  
 For y wyll to Rome, or þat y rest, 230  
 To lerne anodur lare.'  
 þo þoght come on hym sodenly:  
 'Lorde, *merci*!' con he cry  
 240 To god, þat *Mare* bare.

xxi To save hym fro is fadur þo fynde  
 He preyð to god and *Mare* hynde,  
 þat most is of poste,

220 Dame—hye] to his moder free B 221 w. l.] tell thow me B  
 222 þis] my swerd B 223 h. f.] the poynt B || hart] brest B  
 224 And said dame thow getest non other prest B 225 The sothe  
 if thow hide B 226 My—seyð] She said sone the duke B 227 That  
 is owt of this world past B 228 He weddid me with pride B  
 xx 229 Son—soþe] The sothe trewly shal I B 230 In] As y  
 went in B 231 gat] bygatte B 232 He come in liknesse of my  
 lord so free B 234 þ. w.] Tho sythed B || þ. b.] Sir Gowghter B  
 235 Go] And said B || þy] þo A 236 o. þ.] er than B 237 lerne]  
 leve up B || lare] lere B 238 þo] swych a B || c. o.] fil uppon B ||  
 sodenly] dowltyly B 239 That ofte he gan to cry mercy B 240 God]  
 lesu B || bare] bere B

xxi 241 V. 241—46 *fehlen* in B

- To bryng is sowle to þo blys,  
 245 þat he boght to all his  
 Apon þo rodetre.  
 A. fol. 16b Sythyn he went hym hom ageyn  
 And seyð to þo erle, *withowt* leyn:  
 'þo sothe tale tolde þou me;  
 250 Y wyll to Rome to þo apostoyll,  
 þat he mey schryfe me and asoyll,  
 Kepe þou my castyll free.' 240
- XXII þis old erle laft he peyr  
 For to be is *styward* heyre;  
 B. fol. 121b 255 *Syr Gwother* forþe *con* glyde;  
 Toward Rome he radly ranne:  
 Wold he nowdur hors ne man  
 With hym to ren ne ryde.  
 His fauchon *con* he *with* hym take,  
 260 He laft hit not for weyle ne wrake,  
 Hyt hong ei be his syde.  
 Toward Rome cety *con* he seche: 250  
 Or he come to þo powpe speche,  
 Full long he *con* abyde.
- XXIII 265 As sone has he þe pope *con* see,  
 He knelys adown apon is kne  
 And heylst hym full sone;

245 he] ho A 247 Syþyn—went] Than Sir Gowghter rode B  
 248 seyð—leyn] To the olde Erll he gan sayn B 249 þ. s.] A trew B  
 250 Y. w.] Now wol I B || þo] that B || apostoyll] Apostyll A, Ap-  
 postell B 251 To be schreven and after asoyled B 252 kepe]  
 Good sir kepe B || þou] f. B

xxii 253 Thus he left the old Erll thare B 254 To kepe his  
 londes lesse and mare B || styward Z.] stydfast A 255 Toward—radly]  
 Uppon his fote fast he B 257 He tok with him hor[s] nor man B  
 258 Him was lever to ryn than ryde B 259 con—take] he toke  
 with him thoo B 260 hit] that B || not] never B || wrake] woo B  
 261 Hyt—ei] But hynges that B 262 Toward—cety] And to the  
 cowrt B 263 come] myght come B || powpe] popis B

xxiii 265 f. B 266 knelys] kneled B || adown] down B 267 heylst]  
 said to B

He preyd hym with mylde devocyon  
Bope of schryfte *and* absolyscion;

A. fol. 17 a

270 He granttyd hym is bone.  
'Whepon art þou *and* of what cuntre?'  
'Duke of *Estryke*, lorde', quod hee,  
'Be tru god in trone;

260

þer was y geyton with a feynde  
275 And borne of a duches hende,  
My fadur hase frenchypus fone.'

XXIV

'Y wyll gladly, be my fey.  
Art þou crystond?' he said: 'zey,  
My name it is Gwother.'

B. fol. 122 a

280 'Now y lowve god, þou art commun hedur,  
For ellus y most a traveld pedur  
Apon þe for to weyre;  
For þou hast holy kyrke dystroyed.'

270

'Nay, holy fadur, be noght anoyed,  
285 Y schall þe truly swere  
At þi byddyng beyn to be  
And hald þo penans, þat þou leys to me,  
And never cryston deyre.

XXV

'Lye down þi facion þen þe fro:  
290 þou schallt be screvon, or y goo,  
And asoylyd, or y blyn.'

A. fol. 17 b

~~~~~  
268 preyd—devocyon] askid him with high sown B 269 B. o.] f. B
270 He] The pope B || g. h.] him graunted B 271 whepon] whens B
272 lorde] Sir B || quod] q A, said B 274 þer] þat B || y] f. B 278 duches]
lady B 276 Y trowe my good dayes ben done B || fone] few A
xxiv 277 Art thow cristyn said hee B 278 Trewly sir he
saide yee B 279 it] f. B 280 Now—god] Than said the pope B
281 For] or B || a] have B || traveld] gon B 282 And that ful lothe
me were B 283 dystroyed] dystried A 284 Nay] f. B || fadur]
fader he said B || be] þou A || anoyed] agrevyd A 285 truly]
verely B 286 That what penaunce ye me yeve B 287 I shall
do that if y may leve B 288 cryston] crysten man B

xxv 290 y] thow B 291 Das d in asoylyd durch einen Klecks
verdeckt A

'Nay, holy fadur', seyð Gwother,
'þis bous me nedus with mee beyr: 280

My frendys ar full thyn'.

295 'Whether þou travellys be northe or soth,
þou eyt no meyt, bot of howndus moþe,

Ever thy body within,

Ne no worde speke for evyll ne god,

Or þou reyde tokyn have fro god,

B. fol. 122 b 300

þat forgyfyn is þi syn.'

xxvi He knelyd down befor þo apostoyle,
And solely he con hym asoyle,
þo sarten sothe to sey. 290

Meyte in Rome gatte he non,

305 Bot of a dog mothe a bon,

And wygttly went is wey.

He went owt of þat cete

Into anodur far cuntre,

þo testamentys þus þei sey.

310 He seyð hym down undur a hyll,

A. fol. 18 a

A greyhownde brogt hym meyt untyll

Or evon yche a dey.

xxvii þre negthtys þer he ley,

293 bous] fauchon B || m. n.] most y B 294 ar] happely ben B
295 Whether Z.] wher fer A || Whether—be] Thow shalt walk B 296 þou-
no] And gete thi B || bot] bot þat þou revus A, owt B 297 This
penaunce shalt thou gynne B 298 Ne—speke] And speke no word B ||
f. e.] even B || god] gud A, odde B 299 Or—have] Til thou have
very wetyng B || fro] of B 300 þat] f. B || is] be all B

xxvi 301 down] f. B || þo] the worthy B || apostoyle] pope stole A,
apostell B 302 And] That B || he] f. B 303 þo—to] with word
as y yow B 304 Meyte—Rome] of all that day mete B 305 Bot]
Saufe owt B || dog] houndes B 306 wygttly] forth he B 307 went]
trayvayled B 308 þo—sey] For sothe as I you say B 310 u.
a] uppon an B 311 h. m.] brede him B 312 Or—a] At high
none of the B

xxvii 313 negthtys] dayes B

³¹⁵ And þo grwhownd ylke a dey
 A whyte lofe he hym broght.
 On þo fort day come hym non,
 Up he start *and* forþe con gon
 And lovyd god in his þogt.
 Besyde þer was a castell,
³²⁰ The emperowr of *Almayn* þerin con dwell, ³⁰⁰
 And þedurwarde he soght.
 He seyt hym down *withowt* þe yate
 And durst not *entur* in þer atte,
 † Of he wer well wrogt.

B. fol. 123 a

xxviii ³²⁵ þo weytus blu apon þo wall,
 Knyztus geydert into þo hall,
 þo lord buskyd to his saytte;
Syr Gwother ros and in con gwon,
 At þo dor uschar fond he non
³³⁰ Ne porter at þo yette, ³¹⁰
 Bot gwsosse prystely þoro þo pres,
 Unto þo hye bord he chesse;
 þer undur he made is seytt.
 þo styward come *with* yarde in honde,

A. fol. 18 b

³¹⁴ And] *f. A* || þo] a *B* || y. a] every *B* ³¹⁵ whyte] barly *B* ||
 he] *f. B* || broght] bowght *B* ³¹⁶ On—hym] The fowrethe day
 him come *B* ³¹⁷ *fehlt in B, ohne dass die Lücke kenntlich*
wird ³¹⁸ lovyd] thankid *B* || his] *f. B* ³¹⁹ þer] him *B* || was]
 stode *B* || a] a faire *B* ³²⁰ thereyn *vor* con *B* || þe] an *A* || o. *A.*]
f. A ³²¹ þedurward—sogt] theder him gothe ful softe *B*
³²² And] He *B* || entur] goon *B* ³²⁴ Though him wére woo in
 thought *B*

xxviii ³²⁵ þo] That *B* ³²⁶ into] hem into *B* ³²⁷ They
 wysshe and went to mete *B* ³²⁸ S. G.] Up he *B* || ros]? *Das*
Wort ist in A sehr undeutlich geschrieben || con] is *B* ³²⁹ at—
 uschar] Ussher at the hall dore *B* ³³⁰ yette] yatte *A*,
 yate *B* ³³¹ Bot—prystely] He presid blythely *B* ³³² Unto]
 Even til *B* ³³⁴ There come the steward *with* a rod in his
 honde *B*

335 To geyt hym þepyn fast con he fonde
And throly hym con þreyt

xxix To beyt hym, bot he wende away.
'What is þat?' þo emperour con sey.
'My lord', he seyð, 'a man

340 And þat þo feyryst, þat ever y sye; 320
Cum, loke on hym, it is no lye.'

And þedur wyztly he wan.
Won word of hym he myzt not geyt;
þei lette hym sytt *and* gafe hym meyt.

345 'Full lytyll gud he can;
And yett may hapon þoro sum chans,
þat it wer gyffon hym in penans',
þo lord þus onsward þan.

B. fol. 123b

xxx When þo emperowr was seyð *and* servyd
350 And knyztus had is breyd ykervyd, 330
He send þo domp mon parte;
He lette hit stond *and* wold ryzt non.
þer come a spanyell with a bon,
In his mothe he hit bare:

A. fol. 19a

355 Syr Gwother hit fro hym drozhe,
And gredely on hit he gnozhe.
He wold nowdur curlu ne tartte;

335 geyt] do *B* || fast] thus *B* || c. h.] he wolde *B* 336 And
thret him to bete *B*

xxix 337 What is that said the emperour *B* 338 The ste-
ward said with grete honowre *B* 339 h. s.] it is *B* || man] mon *A*
340 And—feyryst] The fayrest and the most *B* 341 loke—it] se
yowreself that *B* 342 The emperour till him cam *B* 343 W. w.]
But wordis *B* || he—not] cowde they non *B* 344 þei] *f. B* || sytt]
sit said the emperour *B* || gafe] gete *B* 345 A. y.] Or that *B* 347 wer]
is *B* || in] in sum *B* 348 Thus said the emperowre thanne *B*

xxx 349 s. a.] all *B* 350 A. k.] A knyght *B* || breyd] mete *B* ||
ykervyd] karvyd *A* 352 ryzt] *f. B* 353 þer—spanyell] But a spaynel
come rynne *B* 354 In] And in *B* || h. b.] that lart *B* 355 The
domme man to him he raught *B* 356 And that bone to him he
cawght *B* || gnozhe] gnofe *A* 357 Thereon fast he tare *B*

- Boddely sustynans wold he nan,
 Bot what so he fro þo howndus wan,
 360 Yf it wer gnaffyd or mard. 340
- xxxI þo emperowre and þo emperrys
 And knyztys and ladys at þo des
 Seyt and hym behelld;
 þei gaffe þo hondus meyt ynozhe,
 365 þo dompe duke to hom he drozhe,
 þat was is best beld.
 Among þo howndys þus was he fed,
 At evon to a lytyll chambur led
 And hyllyd undur teld;
 370 At none he come into þo hall, 350
 Hob hor fole þei con hym call;
 To god he hym con yelde. B. fol. 124a
- xxxII But now þo ylke emperowre
 Had a doghtur whyte, as flowre,
 375 Was too soo dompe, as hee.
 Scho wold have spokyn and myzt nozt, A. fol. 19b
 þat meydon was worþely wrozt,
 Boþe feyr, curteys and free. [358]

~~~~~  
 358 Boddely] For other *B* || w. h.] he had *B* || nan] non *A*,  
 nowght *B* 359 wh. s.] such as *B* || þo] *f. B* || wan] cawght *B*

360 The more was his care *B*

xxxI 362 *A. k.*] Lordis *B* || at] on *B* 363 Seyt] They satt *B*  
 364 gaffe] bed yeve *B* 365 duke] man *B* || to] with *B* || he drozhe]  
 gnawh *B* 366 þat] There *B* 367 Among] Thus among *B* || þo]  
*f. B* || þus—he] he was *B* 368 a. l.] his *B* || led] he was ledde *B*  
 369 hyllyd] yhelyd *B* || teld] a teld *B* 370 *A. n.*] And every day *B* ||  
 he] *f. A* || into þo] to *B* 371 Hob] And Hobbe *B* || hor] the *B*  
 372 god] Criste *B* || h. c.] gan him *B*

xxxII 373 *B. n.*] Than hadde *B* || ylke] same *B* 374 Had] *f. B* ||  
 whyte] as white *B* || flowre] lylye flowre *B* 375 and—nozt] but she  
 ne myght *B* 377 Therefore ful ofte she sighed *B* 378 The ladi  
 bright of blee *B* Nun folgen in *B* die folgenden 6 Verse, die ich  
 aber für unursprünglich halte: To him she was a ful good frend |  
 And mete to houndes for his love wold send | Ful ofte and grete

A messynger come apon a dey, [365]  
 380 Tyll her fadur con he sey:  
     'My lord wele gretys the.  
 þo sawdyn, þat is of mykyll myght,  
 Wyll wer apon þe dey *and* nyggt  
     And bren þi bowrus free 370

XXXIII 385 And sley þi men, bot þou hym sende  
 þi dozttur, þat is so feyr *and* heynde,  
     þat he mey hur wedde.'  
 þo emperour seyð: 'y have bot won,  
 And þat is dompe, as any ston,  
 390 Feyrur þar non be feyd,  
 And y wyll not, be Cryst wownde,  
 Gyffe hor to no heþon hownde:  
     þen wer my bale bredde.  
 Yeit mey god *gyffe* hur þoro is mygt 380  
 395 Ageyn to geyt hur spech ryght.'  
     þo messynger ageyn hym spedde

xxxiv To þo sadyn and told hym soo.

plente. | Ether of hem loved other bright (right?), | But to other no  
 word thei speke ne myght, | That was the more pete. *Die Strophe*  
*XXXII, wie schon XXX, erscheint in beiden Handschriften in sehr*  
*verderbter Ueberlieferung, ich weiss aber nicht, wie zu bessern,*  
*Vgl. die Anmerkung.*

379 Than in on morow come a masynger *B* 380 To the  
 emperour with sterne chere *B* 381 And said to him ful right *B*  
 382 Syr my lord wel greteth the *B* 383 That is Sowdan of Perce *B*  
 384 Man most of myght *B*

xxxiii 385 And—þou] And byddeth that thou schuldest *B* 386 p.  
 d.] Thyn owne dowgter *B* || f. a.] *f.* *B* 387 mey] myght *B* 388 hot]  
 none but *B* 389 þat] she *B* 390 Feyrur—be] The fairest that  
 ever was *B* 391 not] never *B* || b. C.] while y am *B* || wownde]  
 wonde *A*, sownd *B* 392 no] none *B* 393 bale] bales *B* 394 god—  
 hur] god *A* || god—mygt] she sum good halowe seche *B* 395 Thorow  
 grace of god to have speche *B* 396 Agayn the massenger spedde *B*  
 xxxiv 397 To—and] And when he *B* || hym] his lord *B*

pen wakynd ey more wo *and* wo,

A. fol. 20 a

He toke is oste and come nere:

400 þo emperowr dogtty undur schyld

With anodur kepped hym in þo fyld;

Eydur had batell sere.

Syr Gwother went to a chambur smart

And preyd to god in his hart,

390

405 On rode þat bogtt hym dere,

Schuld sende hym armus, schyld *and* speyr

And hors to helpe is lord in weyr,

þat wyll susstand hym þere.

xxxv He had no ner is preyr made,

410 Bot hors and armour boþe he hade,

B. fol. 125 a

Stode at his chambur dor.

His armour, is steid was blacke colour

He leypus on hors, þat stythe in stowr,

þat stalworþe was and store,

400

415 His scheld apon his schuldur hong,

He toke his speyre, was large *and* long,

And spard nodur myre ne more;

Forthe at þo yatus on hors he went,

A. fol. 20 b

398 In that contree was moch woo B 399 The sowdan cam ful  
nere B 400 dogtty] was dowghti man B 401 with—hym] And  
mett the sowdan B 402 Eydur] For bothe B || sere] there B  
403 a] f. B || smart] smert B 404 p. t.] bysowght B || hart] hert B  
405 On—þat] As he had B 406 Schuld] To B || armus] bothe  
armour B || schyld—speyr] and shilde B 407 helpe—weyr] bide in  
the fild B 408 þat—hym] To help his lord B || þere] þare A,  
yere B

xxxv 409 He ne had so sone that Ithought B 410 A colblak  
stede was him ybrought B 411 at—chambur] redy without the B  
412 His] And B || is] f. B || steid—blake] of the same B || colour] color A  
413 Up he stert with grete honour B 414 þat—was] He was both  
styf B 415 His—schuldur] Shyld on shulder gan he B 416 He—  
speyre] And cawght a swerd that B 417 And] He B || nodur]  
nether B || myre] lesse B 418 Forthe] Owt B || yatus] castel  
yates B || on hors] f. B

Non hym knew, bot þat meydyn gent,  
 420 And aftur hur fadur he fore.

xxxvi þo emperour had a batell kene,  
 þo sawden anodur, withowt wene,  
 Assemuld, as was hor kast;  
 Bot, fro *Syr Gwother* comun were, 410  
 425 Mony a crone con he stere  
 And hew apon full fast.  
 He gard stedus for to stakur  
 And knygttus hartys for to flakur,  
 When blod *pro* brenus brast,  
 430 And mony a heypon hed of smott,  
 And owt of hor sadyls, wylle y wott,  
 þei tombull at þo last.

B. fol. 125 b xxxvii He putte þo sawden to þo flygth  
 And made þo chasse, to it was nygth, 420  
 435 And sluye þo sarsyns kene;  
 Sypon rode befor þo emperowr,  
 Non hym knew, bot þat brygth in bowr,  
 þo dompe meydon schene.

~~~~~  
 419 Non—meydyn] Al this saw the dumme lady B 420 As she
 stode in hire towre B

xxxvi 421 The sowdan that was so sterne and stowte B 422 Ful
 fast in the fild he prikyd abowte B 423 Assemuld—hor] To sem-
 bill his men he B 424 By that tyme sir Gowghter was come
 there B 425 And many stowte shildes down he bere B 426 hew—
 full] laid on wonder B 427 He—for] Grete stedes he made B
 428 hartys—flakur] armour all to flatour (slatour?) B 429 þro]
 And A || brast] con brast A 430 Many helmys there he hitt B
 431 Upright myght thei not sitt B 432 But to the ground he hem
 cast B

xxxvii 433 *zweites* þo] f. B 434 Sir Gowghter so moch of
 myght B 435 And] He B || sluye] slow B || þo] f. B || kene]
 bydene B 436 Sypon] He B || rode] rode home B 437 Al this
 saw the lady in her towre B 438 þo—meydon] That was bothe
 bright and B

To chambur he went, dysharnest hym sone,
 440 His hors, is armour away wer done:
 He ne wyst, wher hit mygt bene. A. fol. 21 a
 In hall he fond his lorde at meyt,
 He seytt hym down *and* made is seytt
 Too small raches betwene. 430

xxxviii 445 þo meydon toke too gruhowndus fyn
 And waschyd hor mowþus cleyn *with* wyn
 And putte a lofe in þo ton,
 And in þo todur flesch full god:
 He raft bope owt *with* eyggur mode,
 450 þat dozthy of body and bon.
 He seytt, made hym wyll at es,
 Syþyn to chambur con he ches
 In þat worpely won.
 On þo morne cum a messengere
 455 Fro þo sawdyn *with* store chere, 440
 To þo emperowr *he come sone.* B. fol. 126 a

xxxix He seyð: 'syr, y bryng you a lettur,
 My lord is *commun*, wyll take hym bettur:
 Yesturdey ye slog his men,
 460 To dey he is *commun* into þo feyld

439 To—went] He went to his chamber *B* || dysharnest] and
 unarmyd *B* 440 i. a.] and harneys *B* || wer] was *B* 441 ne] *f. B* ||
 m. b.] bycam *B* 442 When the emperour wessh and went to
 mete *B* 443 He—and] Undur the hegh bord he *B* 444 betwene]
 to him come *B*

xxxviii 445 meydon] lady *B* || too] twey *B* 446 waschyd]
 wyssh *B* 448 *f. B* || god] gud *A* 449 raft] rawght *B* || b. o.] it
 fro him *B* 450 Ful wel was him bygone *B* 451 H. s.] Whan
 he had *B* 452 Syþyn] He went *B* || con—ches] and toke his ese *B*
 453 In] Withyn *B* 454 c. a.] agayn come the *B* 455 store]
 sterne *B* 456 he—sone] sone he come *A*, is he gone *B*

xxxix 457 He] And *B* || y—a] here is my *B* 458 wyll—hym] to
 assay the *B* 460 To—commun] He hath assembled *B* || into] in *B*

A. fol. 21 b

With knygtys, þat beyrus speyr *and* schyld,
Thowsandus mo, þen ten.

On the he will avenied be'.

'Hors *and* armour', than said he,

485 'Hastly had we thenne'. 450

God sende Syr Gwoþer þro is mygth

A reyd hors *and* armour brygth,

He folwyd þro frype *and* fen.

XL

When boþe batels wer areyd,

470 Truly, as þo romandus seyð,

Syr Gwother rode betwene.

Mony a sturdy gard he stombull,

Toppe over teyle hor horssus to tombull,

For to wytte without wene.

475 He hewde insondur helme *and* schelde, 460

He feld þo baner in þo feld,

þat schon so brygt *and* schene;

He leyð apon þo sarsyns blake

And gard hor basnettus in too crake,

480 He kyð þat he was kene.

B. fol. 126 b

XL1

'A, lord god', seyð þo emperowre,

'What knygt is yondur so styffe in stowr,

And all areyd in red,

461 Of dowghti sarezyns undur shild *B* 462 Sixti thowsand
and ten *B* 463 V. 463—5 *f. A* 467 reyd] blode rede *B* || hors]
stede *B* 468 folwyd] fowlyd *A*

XL 469 When—wer] Bothe parties ware wel *B* 470 Truly—roman-
dus] Sir Gowghter as the story *B* 471 Syr—rode] Come ridyng
hem *B* 472 Mony—he] Grete steedis he made to *B* 473 Toppe—
horssus] Knyghtes over hors backys *B* 474 That hardy were and
kene *B* 475 hewde] hew *B* || insondur] asonder *B* || helme] bothe
helme *B* 476 he—baner] Feld down here baners *B* 477 sch. s.]
were bothe *B* 478 l. a.] bet adown *B* 479 gard] made *B* ||
basnettus] backes *B* || in too] for to *B* 480 kyð] bede *B*

XL1 481 A l.] Now dere *B* 482 When com the knygt that is
so styf and stowre *B*

- Boþe his armour and his sted?
 485 Mony a heþon he gars to bled 470
 And dynggus hom to þo deyd
 And hedur come to helpe me:
 A nodur in blacke yesturdey had we, A. fol. 22 a
 þat styrd hym wyll in þo styd,
 490 Dyscomfytt þo sawden *and* mony a sersyn,
 So wyll yondur do, as y wene:
 His dyntus ar heyve, as leyde.
- XLII His fochon is full styffe of stele:
 Loke, he warus his dyntus full wele
 495 And wastus of hom never won'. 480
 þo emperowr pryckus into þo pres,
 þo dozttly knygt *with* hym he ches
 And byrkons hom flesche and bon.
 þo sawdyn to a forest fled,
 500 And his ost *with* hym he led,
 þat laft wer onslon.
 Syr Gwother turnyd is brydyll brygt
 And rode befor is lorde full rygtt,
 To chambur þen *is* gon.
- XLIII 505 When his armour of wer don,
 His hors *and* hit away wer son,
 þat he wyst not, whare.

484 *erstes* his] hors *B* || sted] stedyd *A* 485 *A* thowsand
 sarezyns he hath made blede *B* 486 dynggus—deyd] beten him to
 dethe *B* 487 And] That *B* || come] is come *B* 488 And yesterday
 in blak was he *B* 489 wyll] *f. B* 490 *f. B* 491 And so he will
 er he goo hens *B* 492 ar] ben *B*

XLII 493 He behild his fawchon fel *B* 494 Loke—full] And saw
 he beset his strokys *B* 495 wastus—won] that he wastid none *B*
 496 pryckus] pricked *B* || þo] his *B* 497 A nobill knyght withowten
 les *B* 498 He made the sowdan to gon *B* 499 *V. 499—504 f. B*
 501 onslon] *Die Handschrift hat zwischen on und slon ein unter-*
punktiertes lyve 504 *is* gon] he hym cheys *A*

XLIII 505 Sir Gowghter went to his chamber sone *B* 506 hit—son]
 his armour away was done *B* 507 þat] *f. B* || not] never *B*

B. fol. 127 a

When he come into þo hall,
He fond, þo emperour *and* is men all

A. fol. 22 b

510 To meyt was gwon full yare.
Among þo howndus down he hym seytt,
þo meydon forþe þo greyhondus feytt, 490
And leytt, as nogtt ware,
Fedde *Hob* þo fole, for soþe to sey,
515 Lyke as sche dyd þo forme dey,
To chambur syþon con fare.

XLIV

þo emperour þonkud god of hevun,
þat schope þo nyzt *and* þo deyus seyvun,
þat he had soo sped,
520 Dyscomfyd þo sowdyn thwys
And slen is men most of prys
Save þos, þat *with* hym fled.
'Anturus knyztus come us too,
Aydur dey won of thoo,
525 Y ne wyst, wher þei wer bred,
þo ton in reyð, þo todur in blacke:
Had eydur of hom byn to lacke,
Full evyll we had ben steyd'.

XLV

þey pypud *and* trompud in þo hall,
530 Knyztus and ladys dancyd all
Befor þat mynstralsy.
Syr Gwother in his chambur ley,

~~~~~  
508 The emperour wyssh and went to mete *B* 509 And *with*  
him other lordes grete *B* 510 That at the bataile were *B*  
511 Among—he] Undur the high bord Sir Gowgther *B* 512 meydon—  
þo] lady hagt here *B* || feytt] yfette *B* 513 And—nogtt] Prevely  
as no thyng *B* 514 Fedde] She fed *B* || Hob] how *B* || þo—soþe]  
the ful sothe *B* 515 Lyke] Right *B* || forme] first *B* 516 For no  
man wold she spare *B*

XLIV 517 V. 517—528 *f. B*

XLV 529 þey—trompud] Lordes revelid *B* 530 There daunsid  
many a lady small *B* 531 B. þ.] with here *B* 532 in—chambur]  
went to his bed and *B*

He lyst nowdur dance ne pley,  
 For he was full wery,  
 535 Bryssud for strokus, þat he had laztth,  
 When he in þo batell faztth  
 Amonghe þat carefull cry.  
 He had no þogt, bot of his syn,  
 And how he myzt is soule wyn  
 540 To þo blys, þat god con by.

500 A. fol. 23 a

XLVI þes lordys to bed con hom bown  
 And knygttys and ladys of renown:  
 þus þis romans told.  
 On þo morne come a messynger  
 545 And seyð to þo emperour: 'now is wer,  
 þi care mey be full cold.  
 My lord is comun with his powyr:  
 Bot yf þou gyff hym þi dozttur dere,  
 He wyll hampur þe in hold,  
 550 And byrkon þe boþe blod and bon  
 And leyve on lyfe nozt won  
 Off all þi barons bold'.

B. fol. 127 b

510

XLVII 'Y count hym nozt', quod þo emperour,

~~~~~  
 533 Hym lystyd no thyng for to play B 535 B. f.] For gret B ||
 laztth] cawght B 536 i. p.] atte B 537 þat] the B 538 He—of]
 His thougth was moch uppon B 539 And] f. B 540 þo] f. B ||
 þat—by] above the skye B || con] con hym A

XLVI 541 þes] Than grette B || con] were B || hom] f. B 542 erstes
 And] f. B || ladys] squyers B || renown] grete renown B 543 þus—
 romans] In story as it is B 544 O. p.] A B || morne] Das e durch
 Fleck ausgelöscht A, morow agayn B || come] came B || a] the B
 545 Fro the Sowdan with sterne chere B 546 And said sir emperour
 thi ioy is cold B 547 is—his] hath sembled a new B 548 Bot—
 hym] And byddeth the send B 549 Or [d]ere hir love shall be
 sold B 550 And—blod] Or he wull hurt the body B 551 leyve—
 nozt] alve leve not B 552 all] f. B || barons] burgeys B

XLVII 553 count—quod] come to him said B

3*

- 'Y schall gare sembull as styff in stour 520
 555 *And meytt hym, yf y mey'.*
 A. fol. 23 b. þo dozttty men, þat to hym dyd long,
 Anon wer armyd, old *and* yong,
 Be undur of þo dey.
 þei leype on hors, toke schyld *and* speyr:
 560 þen þo gud knygt *Syr Gwotheyr*
 To god in hart con prey,
 Schulde sende hym hors *and* armour tyte;
 Sone he had hoþe mylke whyte
 B. fol. 128 a. And rod aftur in gud arey. 530
 XLVIII 565 Hys to commyngus þo dompe meydon had sene
 And to þo thryd went, *withowt* wene:
 No mon hyt knew bot god.
 For he fard nodur *with* brag ne bost,
 Bot preystely pryckys aftur þo ost
 570 And foloud on hor trod
 þe emperour was in þo voward,
 And Gowþer rode befor is lord,
 Of knygttys was he odde.
 þo berons wer to þo deþe dongon
 575 And baners bryght in sladus slongon 540
 With strokus greyt and lowd.

554 gare—stour] do semble a wel strong power *B* 556 þo] *f. B* ||
 men—dyd] knyghtis larg and *B* 557 Wel yarmyd ever among *B*
 558 undur] high prime *B* 559 p. l.] *f. B* || toke] redy *with B*
 560 þen] *f. B* || gud] nobill *B* || Syr] *f. A* 561 God—hart] Iesu Crist *B* ||
 con] gan he *B* 562 h. a.] *f. B* 563 Sone] So *B* || h. h.] had he *B* ||
 hoþe] and a steede *B*

XLVIII 565 to] twey *B* || meydon] lady *B* || h. s.] seen had *B*
 566 t. p.] his *B* || went] wending *B* || withowt] *with A*, *withowten B*
 567 She prayd for him full radde *B* 568 For—nodur] Rode he
 not *B* || ne] nor *B* 569 *f. B* || pryckys] pykys *A* 570 And] He *B* ||
 on—trod *Z.*] crowd *A*, ever the tradde *B* 571 emperour] *emperouur A* ||
 was—voward] had the forward *B* 572 lord] bard *B* 573 w. h.] he
 was *B* 574 Grete lordis of hethenesse to deth he throng *B* 575 And
 hire baners to the erth he slong *B* || baners] barons *A* 576 His
 strokes fill full sadde *B*

XLIX

þo sawdyn bare *in* sabull blacke
 .iij. lyons rampand, withowt lacke,
 All of silver schene:

A. fol. 24 a

580 Won was corvon *with* golys redde,
 A nodur *with* gold in þat steyd,
 þo thryde *with* aser, y wene,
 And his helmyt foll rychely fett,
 With charbuckolus stonus sett

585 And dyamondus betwene,
 And his batell wele areyd,
 And his baner brodly dyspleyd;
 Sone aftur tyde hom tene.

B. fol. 128 b

L

þo gud knygt *Syr* Gowtheyr,
 590 He styrd hym styfly in his geyr:
 þer levyd non dogttur þanne.
 Ylke a dyntte, þat he smotte,
 þro owt steyll helmus it boot:
 He felld boþe hors and man
 595 And made hom tombull to þo gronde.
 þo fotemen on þo feld con stonde
 And þenward radly ranne.
 þo sawdyn for þe emperowrus dogttur
 Gard cryston *and* heþon to dye in slagttur:
 600 þat tyme hym burd wele ban.

LI

To whyle *Syr* Gwoþer freschely fagtte,
 Mony a hors is deypþe þer kagtte,
 þat he mygtte overreche:

A. fol. 24 b

XLIX 577 in] a A 578 .iij] Thre B || rampand] f. B 579 All]
 þat all A || schene] schon A 580 corvon] crowned B 582 aser—
 wene] dyvers of grene B 583 And] f. B || helmyt] helme was B
 584 With—stonus] Al *with* riche charbocles B || sett] surly sett A,
 bysett B 586 And] f. B || wele] was ful well B 587 brodly] ful
 brode B 588 t. h.] turned to him B

L 589 þo] For the B || gud] nobill B || *Syr* f. B 590 styrd]
 bare B || styfly] so goodely B 591 V. 591—602 f. B || þanne] y
 wene A 594 man] mon A

LI 602 a] a dogtte A 603 Men nedeth no better to seche B

All, þat he *with* his fawchon hytte,
 605 þei fell to þo ground *and* rosse not yytte
 Nor lokyd aftur no leyche.

Bot he wold not for yre ne tene
 No worde speyke, *withowt* wene,
 For dowtte of godus wreche;

610 Yf all he hongurt, nogt he dyd eytte,
 Bot, what he mygt fro þo howndus geyt;
 He dyd, as þo pwope *con* teche.

LII Syr Gwother, þat styþe in stowre,
 Rydus ey *with* þo emperour

615 And weyrus hym fro wothe.

þer was no sarsyn so mykull of strenþe,
 þat durst come *within* hor speyre lenthe:
 So dogtty wer þei boþe.

With his fachon large *and* long
 620 Syche dyntus on þem he dong,
 Hor lyfus mygtte þem lothe.

All, þat ever abode þat becur,
 Of hor deypus megtt be secur:

He styrd his hondus so rathe.

A. fol. 25 a

LIII 625 þat dey he tent noght, bot is fyght:
 þo emperour faght *with* all his myght,
 Bot radly was he *tan*
 And *with* þo sawdyn away was leyd;

605 yytte] yette A, yet B 606 N. l.] To seke B 607 Bot—yre]
 Yet durst he never in angur B 608 No—speyke] Speke no word B ||
 withowt] withowten B 609 dowtte] drede B || wreche] wreke A
 610 Yf—he] And thow him B || nogt—dyd] he durst not B 611 what]
 such as B || he—howndus] fro houndes he myght B 612 con] con
 hym A

LII 613 Thus did sir Gowghter the gentil knyght B 614 V. 614
 bis 625 f. B 617 hor] is A 618 dogtty] dogttely A 621 þem] þe A

LIII 626 þo] But the B || faght—myght] that was so sterne in
 fight B 627 Bot—he] Ful smartly he was B || tan] takon A, tanne B
 628 And] And away B || a. w.] he was B

po dompe duke gard hym ley a wed, 570
 630 Stroke of his hed anon,
 Rescowyd is lord, brogt hym ageyn
 And lovyd god in hart ful feyn,
 þat formod boþe blod and bon. B. fol. 129 a
 þer come a sarsyn with a speyre,
 635 Thro þo scholdur smott Gotheyr
 þen made þe dompe meydon mon.

LIV For sorro fell owt of hur toure
 po doghtur of þo emperour,
 To whyte withowt wene. 580
 640 A dozttý sqwyer in hur bare,
 Of all too deyus hoo styrd no mare,
 þen ho deyð had ben.
 po lord come hom, to meyt was seytt,
 And po dozttý knyztus withowt leytt,
 645 þat had in þo batell byn. A. fol. 25 b
 þis gud knyzt *Syr Gwothere*,
 To chambur he went, dyd of is geyre,
 þen myssyd he þat meydon schene.

LV Emong þo howndus is meyt he wan. 590

639 Sir Gowghter rode after and made him leve his wedde B
 630 stroke] And smote B || anon] þanne B 631 Rescowyd] Thus
 rescued he B || brogt] and browght B 632 And] f. A || lovyd] lovyd
 be A, thankid B || in] with B || ful] was ful A 633 blod] lode B
 634 þer] Right with that B 635 þo] shilde and B 636 þen]
 po B || meydon] lady B

LIV 637 fell—toure] she saw that stowre B 638 She sowne and
 fill owt of hir towre B 639 And brak full negh hir necke B
 640 A—sqwyer] Two squyres B 641 And .iij. dais she moved not
 yare B 642 As thowh she had be dede B 643 The emperour
 wyssh and went to mete B 644 *Dieser Vers aus Verschen doppelt*
geschrieben A, And with him other lordis grete B || knyztus] knyzt A
 645 had—batell] at the bateill hadde B 646 V. 646 nach 647 A ||
 Sir Gowghter waswounded sare B 647 Into the hall he gan
 fare B 648 þen—meydon] He myssyd the lady B

650 þo emperour was a drury man
 For his dozttur gent;
 He gard erlys *and* barons go to Rome
 Aftur þo pope, and *sone he come*
 To hur enterment

B. fol. 129 b

655 And cardynals to þo beryng,
 To assoyle þat swett þyng.
 Syche grace god hur sentt
 þat scho raxeld hur *and* rase
 And spake wordus, þat wyse was, 600
 660 To *Syr Gwother*, varent.

LVI

Ho seyð: 'my lord of heyvon gretus þe well
 And forgyffeus þe þi syn yche a dell
 And grantys þe þo blys
 And byddus þe speyke on hardely,
 665 Eyte *and* drynke and make mery:
 þu schallt be won of his.'

A. fol. 26 a

Scho seyð to hur fadur: 'þis is he,
 þat fagt for yow deys thre
 In strong batell, ywys.' 610

670 þo pope, had schryvon *Syr Gother*,
 He lovyd god *and Mare per*,
 And radly hym con kys

LV 650 drury] carful *B* 652 He—go] Massyngers were sent *B*
 653 sone—come] he come sone *A, B* 654 enterment] terement *B*
 655 Whan cardynales herd this tidyngis *B* 656 Thei come to hir
 beryngis *B* 657 God] God hath *B* 658 r. h.] stered himself *B*
 659 wyse] witti *B* 660 varent] with good entent *B*

LVI 661 Ho] And *B* 662 Foryeve ben thi synnes every dell *B*
 663 þo] his *B* 664 And] He *B* || speke—hardely] speke boldely *B*
 665 Eyte] To ete *B* || make] make the *B* 667 Fader she said to
 the emperour *B* 668 This is the knyght that hath fowghten in
 stowre *B* 669 In—batell] For yow in three batellis *B* 670 h. sch.]
 that schroffe *B* || Syr] *f. B* || Gother] Gowghter at Rome *B*
 671 Byknew him whan he theder come *B* 672 radly] lowly *B* ||
 h. c.] gan him *B*

- LVII And seyð: 'now art þou goddus chyld:
 þe þar not dowl þo warlocke wyld,
 675 þer waryd mot he bee.' B. fol. 130 a
 þro þo pope and þo emperour asent
 þer he weyd þat meydyn gent,
 þat curtesse was and fre.
 Scho was a lady gud and feyr, 6²⁰
 680 Of all hur fadur londus eyr,
 Beyttur þurte non bee.
 þo pope toke his leyfe to weynde,
 With þam he laft his blessing heynde:
 Ageyn to Rome went hee.
- LVIII 685 When þis mangere was brogt to ende,
 Syr Gwother con to Estryke wende
 And gaffe þo old erle all;
 Made hym duke of þat cuntre A. fol. 26 b
 And lett hym wed his modur fre, 630
 690 þat lade gent and small.
 And þer he made an abbey
 And gaff þer to rent for ey
 And seyð: 'here lye y schall,'
 And putte þerin monkus blake
 695 To rede and syng for godys sake
 And closyd hit with gud wall.

LVII 673 A. s.] *f. B* || þou bycome *B* 674 dowl] drede
 of *B* || þo] thi *B* || warlocke] workys *B* 675 For sothe I tell it the *B*
 676 Thorow grace of God and the popis atent *B* || emperour] empour *A*
 677 þer—meydyn] He was made wedde the lady *B* 679 Scho] And
 scho *A* || was] *f. A* || a] *f. B* || feyr] feyr *A* 681 Beyttur] A better *B* ||
 þurte] may *B* 682 toke—wende] wold no longer lend *B* 683 With—
 laft] But yaf him all *B* || heynde] *f. A* 684 Ageyn] *f. B* || went]
 than went *B*

LVIII 685 p. m.] the fest *B* 688 Of all his faderis londes he
 made him eyre *B* || hym] kym *A* 689 And made him wedde his
 moder fayre *B* 690 l. g.] was bothe gentill *B* 691 And—made]
 Sygthe he bilyd *B* 692 seyð] *f. A* || h. l.] be beried here *B*
 694 p. p.] thereyn put *B* 696 w. g.] within a *B*

LIX

B. fol. 130 b

All yf þo pope had hym schryvyn
 And god is synnus clene forgevon,
 Yett was his hart full sare, 640
 700 þat ever he schuld so yll wyrke
 To bren þo nonnus in hor kyrke
 And made hor plasse so bare.
 For hom gard he make þat abbey
 And a covent þerin for ey,
 705 þat mekull cowde of lare,
 To syng and rede to þo wordus end
 For hor soulus, þat he had brend,
 And all, þat cryston ware.

LX

A. fol. 27 a

And þen he went hym hom ageyn, 650
 710 And, be þat he come in Allmeyn,
 His fadur þo emperour was deyð:
 Tho was he lord and emperowr,
 Of all cryston knygttus þo flour
 And with þo sarsyns dredde.
 715 What man bad hym for godus loffe doo,
 He was ey redy bown þer too
 And stod pore folke in styd
 And mayntened ryche men in hor ryght
 And halpe holy kyrke in all is myght: 660
 720 þus toke he bettur reyð.

B. fol. 131 a

LIX 697 A. y.] For thowh B || schryvyn] yshreve B 698 god] f. B || clene] were B 700 ever] f. B || yll] wyckedly B || wyrke] wrech B 701 kyrke] cherch B 702 Another abbay made he thore B 703 There he did make a nother abbay B 704 a—ey] put theryn monkes gray B 706 To—to] For þem unto A || wordus] worlde ys B 707 h. s.] the nonnes B || had] f. B 708 And] f. B

LX 709 And—hym] Thus went Sir Gowghter B 710 And] f. B || þat] that tyme B || in] to B 711 His—emperour] His wyfis fader B 712 Th. w.] And A 713 c. k.] cristendome he bare B 714 Above the Saregyys hede B 715 bad] so byðus A || loffe] sake B 716 He—bown] Trewly he was redy B 717 folke] men B 718 mayntened] f. A || ryche] pover B 719 kyrke] chi[r]che B || in all] with B 720 toke] cawght B

LXI Furst he reynod mony a yere,
 An emperour of greyt power,
 And whysyle con he wake,
 And when he dyed, þo sothe to sey,
 725 Was beryd at þo same abbey,
 þat hymselfe gart make;
 And he is a varre corsent *parfytt*
 And *with* cryston pepull wele belovyd.
 God hase done for his sake 670
 730 Myrrakull, for he *was* hym hold;
 þer he lyse in schryne of gold,
 þat suffurd for goddus sake.

LXII Whoso sechys hym *with* hart fre, A. fol. 27 b
 Of hor bale bote mey bee,
 735 For so god hase hym hygt.
 þes wordus of hym þar no mon wast,
 For he is inspyryd *with* þo holy gost,
 þat was þo cursod knygt.
 For he garus þo blynd to see
 740 And þo dompe to speyke, *parde*,
 And makus þo crokyd ryght
 And gyffus to þo mad hor wytte
 And mony odur meracullus yytte
 þoro þo grace of god allmygt.

LXI 721 Furst—reynod] And levid in good lyf B 722 An] f. B
 724 And] f. B || þo] for B 725 Was] He was B || at—same] in that B
 726 h. g.] he first gan B 727 Im folgenden — V. 750 hat B Lücken,
 auch ist die Reihenfolge der Verse von der in A abweichend. Ich
 gebe zu jedem Verse die betr. Varianten. V. 727—29 f. B || *parfytt*]
 parsett A 730 Myrrakull—hold] And doth maracles as it is told B
 hinter 731 || was] has A 731 in] in a B 732 And hatt Seynt
 Gotlake B

LXII 733 V. 733—38 f. B 739 For—blynd] He make [th] blynd
 men for B 740 f. B 741 Crokyd here crucchis forsake B 742 Wode
 men to have here wit *parde* B (cf. 740) 743 V. 743—750 f. B ||
 yytte] yette A

LXIII 745 þus *Syr Gwother* coveryd is care
 þat fyrst was ryche *and* sypon bare
 And effte was ryche ageyn
 And geyton *with* a selcouyd feynd: }
 Grace he had to make þat eynd, }
 750 þat god was of hym feyn.
 þis is wreton in *parchemyn*,
 A story boþe gud and fyn,
 Owt off a lai of *Breyteyn*. }
 Iesu Cryst, goddys son,
 755 Gyff us mygt *with* hym to won,
 þat lord, þat is most of meyn! Amen.
 Explicit *Syr Goper*.

LXIII 745 coveryd] coverys A 751 þis] This tale B || *parchemeyn* A
 752 A—hoþe] In a stori B 753 Owt—a] In the first B || lai] law A ||
 breytyn A 754 Von hier ab weicht der Schluss in B völlig ab.
 Er lautet V. 754—62

Now god, that is of mythes most,
 755 Fader and sone and holy gost
 Of owre sowles be fayne!
 All, that hath herd this talkyng, 680
 Lytill, moche, old and y yng,
 Yblyssyd mote they be.
 760 God yeve hem grace, whan they shal ende,
 To hevyn blys here sowles wend B. fol. 131 b
 With angelys bryght of ble!
 Amen par charite.
 Explicit *Vita Sancti*.

V i t a.

Natus sum Carolus Breul Hannoverae die X mensis Sextilis a. h. s. LX patre Ernesto matre Agnesa quos superstites veneror. Fidei addictus sum evangelicae. Postquam, litterarum elementis in patriae gymnasio quod dicitur 'Lyceum II' imbutus, maturitatis testimonium adeptus sum mense Aprili a. h. s. LXXVIII Tubingam me contuli ibique per bis senos menses versatus sum cum scholas audiens tum militandi praestans officium. Dein ad studia persequenda Argentoratum me contuli ubi quattuor per menses commoratus sum. Autumno a. h. s. LXXIX Berolinum migravi ibique per septies senos menses linguarum recentium studio me dedidi. Superiore anno per duos fere menses cum Julio Zupitza professore studiorum causa in Britannia versatus sum. Seminariorum Anglici (quatt. sem.) et Romanensis (duo sem.) sodalis eram ordinarius atque exercitationibus Theodiscis quas moderatur G. Scherer intereram (duo sem.).

Magistri mei doctissimi fuerunt: Tubingae Kugler, Sigwart; Argentorati Boehmer, Koschwitz, Lahm, Levy, Ten Brink, Zoepffel; Berolini Gaspary, de Giżycki, Harms, Michaelis, Müllenhoff, Napier, Paulsen, Roediger, Scherer, Schmidt, Tobler, Zeller, Zupitza; in Philologiae Recentis Academia Berolinensi Foerster. Quibus omnibus optime de me meritis gratias ago maximas, imprimis autem Guilielmo Scherer, Adolfo Tobler, Julio Zupitza, viris illustrissimis, quorum non solum in seminariis institutione praeclarissima, sed etiam amicissimis consiliis quantopere sim adiutus numquam e memoria deponam.

Thesen.

I.

Die sagen von Robert von Sicilien und von Robert dem Teufel sind nicht als verwandt zusammenzustellen.

II.

Mit recht hat F. Liebrecht (Zur Volkskunde S. 106—7) die versuche, in Robert dem Teufel einen historischen Normannenherzog sehen zu wollen, zurückgewiesen.

III.

Die erste hälfte der me. metrischen romanze von Sir Degare ist wahrscheinlich nach dem vorbilde des 'Lay le Freine' gedichtet.

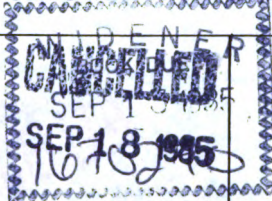
IV.

Die englische metrische romanze von Robert dem Teufel ist auf das englische volksbuch zurückzuführen.

V.

Schiller hat den stoff zu einigen seiner kleineren gedichte seiner philosophischen prosa entnommen.

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